

**David Brock Smith**

**State Representative**

HOUSE DISTRICT 1

Curry, Coos, Douglas & Josephine Counties

900 Court St NE H-379

Salem, OR 97301

503.986.1401



**From the Desk of Rep. David Brock Smith**

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**900 COURT ST NE SALEM, OREGON 97301**

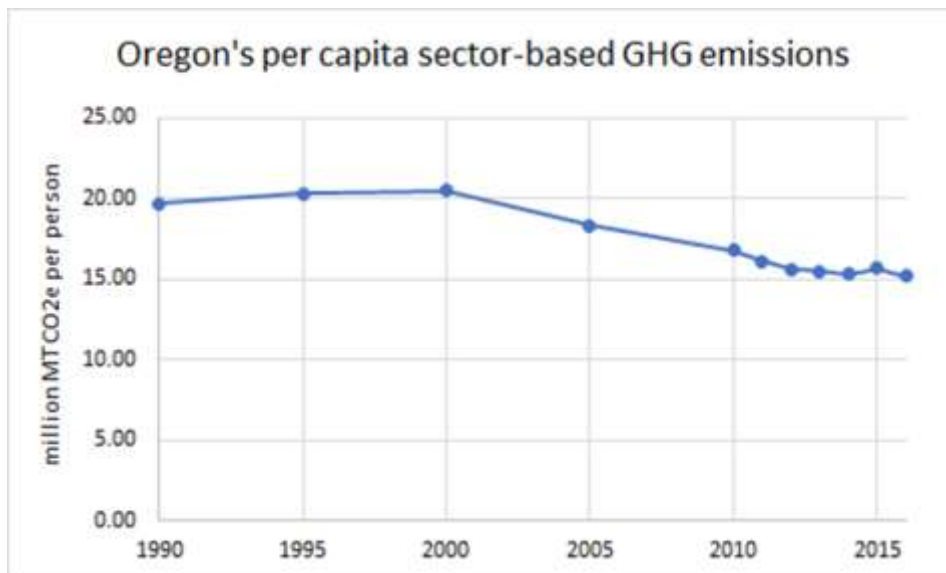
2/17/2020

Colleagues,

Let's talk about carbon in Oregon and Globally. To start this conversation, let us remember what our state experts have said on the topic of Oregon's carbon reduction: Oregon produces 0.14% of greenhouse emissions on the global scale, this according to data from the Oregon Global Warming Commission. Even the Director of the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality; during my questioning in committee, agreed saying, "Representative Brock Smith you are correct. That Oregon's portion of global carbon emissions is, I'll use the word minuscule." When Dr. Philip Mote, Director, Oregon Climate Services and Oregon Climate Change Research Institute was asked by me what the impact would be on the global climate if Oregon were to reduce their emissions to zero, he responded the impact would be, "Imperceptible."

Did you know that nearly half of our anthropogenic emissions (which are emissions created by people, their driving, industries, business, etc.) are already sequestered by our forests in this state, e v e r y s i n g l e y e a r! The Oregon Grass Seed Industry in our state alone, sequesters over 2 million metric tons of carbon annually according to a study by OSU. But it gets better colleagues, A LOT better. You just need to have ALL the data.

I am the House Republican appointed to the Global Warming Commissioner. I want to thank Rachel Dawson of the Cascade Policy Institute for her great work crunching these numbers. While the Commission tracks per capita GHG emissions, the Commission does not use per capita estimates to determine where we are in relation to the target. Moreover, the Commission does not make per capita estimates readily available to legislators.



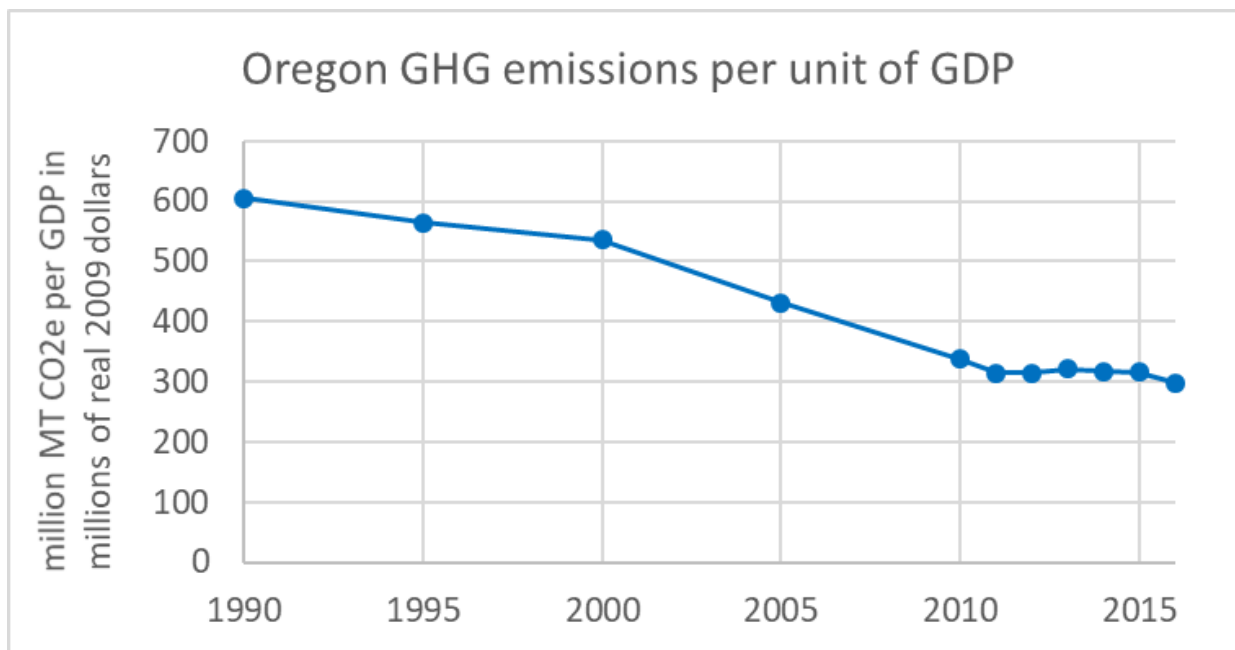
When considering emissions in aggregate, Oregon produced 13% more total emissions in 2017 compared to 1990 levels, and thus appears to be failing to meet the target. HB 3543 (the governing legislation that started all of this) however, does not indicate whether GHGs should be measured in the aggregate or on a per capita basis. This is an important distinction given Oregon's population growth since the legislation passed in 2007 and the overall greater population growth since 1990.

When measured on a per capita basis, **Oregon GHG emissions in 2017 were actually 21% lower than 1990 levels.** We have more than doubled the 10% emissions reduction goal and done so—three years ahead of the deadline. When using only data provided by the Commission through the year 2016, **per capita emissions have declined by 22.8%.** Although Oregon's population grew by over 1.3 million people, emissions continued to decline. All prior to ANY climate or carbon reduction legislation implemented by the legislature.

Colleagues, the data clearly reveals reductions across the state have continued to decline over time!

	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	% Change
<b>Total Sector Based GHG emissions (MMT)</b>	56.4	64.9	70.7	66.2	63.9	62.4	60.2	60.3	60.3	60.4	61.9	9.7%
<b>Population (millions)</b>	2.8	3.2	3.4	3.6	3.8	3.9	3.9	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.1	46.4%
<b>GDP (millions of real 2009 dollars)</b>	92,850	114,805	130,992	153,771	190,371	198,298	192,598	188,806	190,626	199,682	207,367	123%
<b>Per capita emissions</b>	19.7	20.3	20.5	18.3	16.8	16.1	15.6	15.5	15.3	15.7	15.2	-22.8%
<b>Per GDP emissions</b>	605	564	536	432	338	314	315	322	317	316	298	-50.7%

As Oregon, our industries, GDP and population continues to grow, emissions have continued to decline. This decline has again occurred prior to the implementation of costly GHG (Green House Gas) reduction legislation.



Colleagues, the data is clear. Oregonians and their industries have; in spite of our tremendous growth, continued to reduce GHG emissions. In fact, Oregon is the 5<sup>th</sup> lowest in GHG emissions in

the US. Many of you probably have not received this data, and that is unfortunate. HB 2020 Oregon Climate Action Program’s Statement of Purpose included, “To provide assistance to households, businesses and workers impacted by the transition in this state to an economic system that allows for the State of Oregon to achieve the greenhouse gas reduction goals set forth in ORS 468A.205.” Colleagues, as this data clearly demonstrates, we have not only currently reached these goals but have exceeded them. Oregonians and our industries are already leading the nation in reducing emissions while growing our economy, without overburdensome regulations through legislation that changes the economic system in this state, taking the very financial resources of our working families and redistributing them to “provide assistance” to others in this state. Please stop this madness and let our working families, industries and economy continue to grow with these trends in GHG reductions.